

## THE TEACHING CAREER OF LILLIAN BEATRICE (CURTIS) BARTHOLOMAY

In her letter of March 10, 1981 to S. Robert Powell, Mrs. Beatrice Bartholomay of Waymart, PA, reports the following information about her teaching career:

I taught in one-room schools 23 yrs. The larger desks were in the back & smaller ones in front. The children helped with certain chores like washing blackboards and dusting the erasers.

The drinking water was carried from a near-by farm house. Kept in a stone drinking fountain with a spigot.

Of course there were two outside toilets (girls & boys). These outhouses usually got tipped over at Halloween.

One was hired as a teacher but you were also the janitor, play ground supervisor, and practical nurse.

Enclosed in Mrs. Bartholomay's letter of March 10, 1981 to S. Robert Powell was a copy of a letter that she received from Dr. John P. Sutton, District Superintendent, Wayne Highlands School District, 474 Grove Street, Honesdale, Pennsylvania 18431 Telephone 717-253-4661. The letter is dated December 6, 1978. The text of that letter is as follows:

Mrs. Beatrice Bartholomay  
Waymart, Pennsylvania 18472

Dear Mrs. Bartholomay:

Mrs. Marie Sheard, former secretary to the County Superintendent of Schools, has reviewed the historical records of the schools of Wayne County, and has confirmed that you have the distinction of having been the last teacher in three one-room schools:

You were the last teacher at the Farno School, Clinton Center, which closed its doors for good on May 26, 1944 [see photograph of this school in Volume I, Number 3 of NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA].

You were the last teacher at the Curtis Valley School, Clinton Township, which closed its doors for good on June 2, 1947.

You were the last teacher at the South Clinton School, Clinton Township, which closed its doors for good on June 7, 1962.

All three of these schools were operating as one-room schools at the time of their closing, and their attendance areas are now part of the Western Wayne School District.

Sincerely,

[signed] John P. Sutton  
District Superintendent

JPS:ad

From the letterhead of this letter from Dr. John P. Sutton to Mrs. Beatrice Bartholomay, we learn the following information about the Wayne Highlands School District in 1978: Dr. John P. Sutton, Superintendent; Hillard L. Schadler, Asst. Superintendent; Richard F. Erk, Board President; Rebecca Bates, Board Secretary.

**NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, May 20, 1981**

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